

Record vote has been requested on the motion to adopt the committee amendments. Mr. Clerk, record.

CLERK: (Record vote read. See pages 1541-42 of the Legislative Journal.) 27 ayes, 1 nay on the committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Committee amendments are adopted. Senator Brashear, you would be recognized to open on the bill.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, thank you and thank you to you, Senator Jensen, for your timely and selfless prioritization of this and to the Mr. Speaker for ordering LB 1368. Given all that has gone before in terms of public discussion and comment, this bill may be as significant, I suggest, for what it is not as what it is. You may not believe me some period of time from now, but this is a relatively simple, technical modification of existing public policy. During the last session of the Legislature, behind the leadership of Speaker Withem, we all adopted the Quality Jobs Act. We made a determination that for the people of the state of Nebraska it would be in our best interest to "incentivize" the creation of high quality jobs and to provide a benefit to the employers coming to Nebraska to create them with significant investment and in significant numbers. I'd remind you that the threshold for 829 is 250 jobs and \$100 million of qualified investment, or 500 jobs and \$50 million of investment. All we are doing and asking the Legislature to do in LB 1368 is to allow essentially the same credit to be available to an employer who is collectively organized under federal labor law. We provide an alternative methodology for the computation of essentially the same credit. After all, when we did LB 829 we did not do it for a specific company. I know Micron will leap to mind, but it was done for Micron and all others who qualified and we had a focus on that business which was not headquartered in the state of Nebraska. Now we are looking at a situation in which we have an opportunity to do something using 829 as the vehicle for all of Nebraska and for a lot of Nebraskans. You have a floor exhibit before you. It's red in color. It details the approximate location of 6,340 employees of the Union Pacific Railroad Company in the state of Nebraska. I respectfully submit that this bill truly is for all Nebraska. It's about people and it's about jobs and it's about opportunity. It's about equity and fairness for a distinguished corporate citizen and employer of the state of Nebraska. We have, or ought to